THE BASKET.

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CONSOLATION IN WINTER.

From the German.

My heart! why wilt thou complain
That Winter has bound the earth?
Fair Spring will come again and give
To flowers and trees new birth.

Ah, why wilt thou be sad
That rest the field and vine?
Sleep brings fresh power to the seed,
New fervor to the wine.

And though all mirth and joy
Were lost to thee and gone,
'Tis but a night that strengthens all;
It waits a brighter dawn.

Aye, though mankind all lay
Shrouded in snow, and numb,
When Winter's death has passed away,
A better life will come.

H. A. S.

O, dear! how easy it is to find excuses for absence from church. On a certain Sunday morning, out of a usual gathering of about 200 to 250, there were about 40 present, and it was a special occasion. Why? It was neither cold or stormy, but there was a little drizzling rain. Could this be the cause? The location may be either city or country. There are men and women, young and old, who will go parading along the street, sometimes behind a drum, in mud, darkness and rain, to a political meeting, a social party, a supper, a lodge, etc., but to a church! Sometimes people are indifferent about the church because they affect not to like the preacher. But the preacher is not the church, nor is he responsible for the short-comings of others. The congregation of men and women, members and others, including the preacher, of course, constitute the church, and each one is as responsible, to some extent, for the prosperity of the church as is the minister. It is true that occasionally a minister makes himself unpopular by his apparent desire for show and unnecessary "improvements," and wheedles or browbeats the people into incurring heavy debts, and then leaves them and his successor to struggle along the best way they can. But, as a general rule, ministers are earnest workers for the good of the people, spiritually and temporally.

A scheme is mooted in a London "religious" newspaper for the "lighting, warming and furnishing vestries in connection with every Methodist church to be used as smoking rooms for working men!" Can it be possible that such a sacrilege can meet with success? If so, what next? Won'dn't it be followed in time by card-playing, dancing, or even gin-drinking parlors? It is said the gods grind slowly, and whom they intend to destroy they first make blind—demoralize.

After the above was in type we came across the following: Dr. Joseph Parker, of London, is going to start a series of smoking sermons. He thinks that the London workingmen may be induced to go to church if they can find a place where pipe-smoking and religious (?) services may be pursued together! [What an idea—turn a house built to worship the Lord in into a smoke-house!

First Eminent Physician—"But Herr Windygratz has gout—his lungs are sound! why, then, did you tell him not to play the trombone for six months?" Second Eminent Physician—"Because, my dear sir, Herr Windygratz occupies the room next to mine." [Funny Folks

Michael Murphy, a member of the Ontario Bass-Ball Club, was killed during a bass-ball game on Sunday. Resolutions were passed unanimously by the club, the preamble of which contained these words: "Whereas, the Great Ruler of the universe has entered our organization and taken our beloved brother, Michael Murphy, to the happy home above; and, although we bow to the will of Him who doeth all things well, we feel that we have sustained a great loss." It is quite possible that Michael was a Roman Catholic, and had not been brought up to keep the Sabbath; but it sounds very odd to Sabbath-keeping Christians that being killed in a Sunday bass-ball game is another form of being removed to "the happy home above" by "the Great Ruler of the universe." Not a great while ago, an Episcopal minister expostulated with one of his congregation for playing a bass-ball game on a Sunday, and the young man said he guessed it must be right as Father —— (naming a prominent Roman Catholic priest of a neighboring city) umpired the game! The Romanist and Greek Christians have so many man-made days to keep, that to observe the fifty-two recurrences of the Lord's day, is a heavy tax upon them. N. Y. Christian Advocate.

James Peters, of Philadelphia, while playing bass-ball, was struck in the face by a ball, breaking his nose and injuring one of his eyes so seriously as that he will lose the sight of it.

"What can I do, my darling," he whispered, "to prove my love for thee? Would that I could, at peril of my life, rescue thee from blood-thirsty Indians, save thee from the fangs of the roaring lion, or snatch thee from a watery grave. Say, dear one, what can I do?" "Ask Papa," she said promptly. But he was not prepared to go so far as that. He went outside to see what sort of an evening it was, and never came back again.—[Pick-Me-Up.

BOOKS.—"The Art Union," is a large quarto of 415 pages, London edition, crowded with fine wood and exquisite whole page steel engravings.—Among the latter is a fine portrait of Queen Victoria in her younger days, a Rural Scene, Blind Man's Buff, Naughty Boy, The English Mother, outline Judgment of Paris, Come to these Yellow Sands, the Gentle Shepherd, etc. Fine engravings of statuary—Dancing Girl in Repose, Venus, Sleeping Nymph, Maternal Love, Resignation, Prometheus, chained. Forms of the Antique, Decorative Designs, forms of Ancient Carriages, Chairs, etc. Also, Mrs. S. C. Hall's Midsummer Eve, a Fairy Tale of Love, profusely illustrated, and is quite lengthy.

This book is elegantly bound in red morocco, and is for Sale. Price, $5. Inquire at office of the "Basket."

A recent English investigation shows that with men over 25 years of age the intemperate use of alcoholic beverages cuts off ten years of life. Also, that occasional indulgence, if carried to excess, doubles diseases of the liver, quadruples diseases of the kidneys, and greatly increases deaths from pneumonia, pleurisy and epilepsy.

Some of the richest men and some of the poorest are indebted to beer for their respective positions.

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HADDONFIELD, N. J., FEBRUARY 15, 1889.

In the death of Howard, Joseph F. Kay loses all the eight children that have been born unto him except one. This seems sad. But there is an over-ruling Providence doubtless in all human affairs, which mortals may not scrutinize or question. Friends and all kindly-hearted people can but sympathise with the bereaved parents. The funeral was largely attended.

At the regular meeting of the Haddon Century Republican Club, held on Thursday evening of last week, resolutions were adopted endorsing Col. J. E. PEYTON for Minister to Chili.

A committee of five was appointed to arrange for the attendance of the Club upon the ceremonies that will take place at Trenton upon the celebration of the 100th anniversary of President Washington's inauguration, the latter part of next April.

The singing of the male quartette at the recent musical entertainment given by the Haddon Athenæum reminds of a statement we have read somewhere, that the grandest music in the world is produced by the Antiphonal choirs, composed of monks, who sing without the help of organ, or any other musical instrument, in the Russo-Greek church, and that Russia produces the greatest bass-singers known.

Communication.

In the last No. of the "Basket," it was stated that a meeting of some of the prominent men of the town had met at the residence of Dr. John Stevenson for the purpose of discussing Electric Lighting for Haddonfield.

At that meeting, Mr. T. Carpenter Smith, of the firm of M. Richard Muckle', jr., & Co., engineer, of Philadelphia, with A. J. Rudderow, Esq., attorney of the Westinghouse Electric Light Co., visited Haddonfield, by invitation, to inspect the town, and give information. The above-named firm put in complete plants and wires for electric incandescent lights under the Westinghouse system. It was learned that Haddonfield now has 79 lamps, which, with new applications, will, this year, number 90, the cost of which to the Borough will be about $2000. Mr. Smith stated that for this sum ($2000) an electric light company could afford to furnish 100 electric lamps of thirty candle power, each lamp being three times the brilliancy of the present lamps. He stated the exact sum for which they would put up the whole plant, including poles, wires, 100 public lamps and 300 lamps introduced into stores, churches or houses. The electric lamps to private houses could be lighted at the same cost as gas in Philadelphia, the consumer paying for what he consumed, measured to him by a metre more accurately than gas. The cost of house fixtures is much less than those for the introduction of gas. The safety of electric lighting is proved by the fact that Fire Insurance companies will insure buildings thus lighted at less rates than when kerosene or gas is burned. Citizens were invited to visit and inspect places where these lights were in operation. As Woodbury, Merchantville, Burlington and Egg Harbor City either have or are now introducing electric lights, it seems as if it were time for the people of Haddonfield to move in the matter.

We have received No. 1 of "The African News," a monthly period cal, with Bishop Wm. Taylor as editor, and T. B. Wilson, publisher, Philadelphia. $1 a year.

Valley Forge, the famed Revolutionary historical grounds, now in possession of Mr. James B. Carter, of Philadelphia, are coming into notice in a business point of view. A company has been organized under the title of "The Valley Forge Natural Gas Company," and they are now drilling a well opposite the building known as Washington's Head Quarters. They have sunk the well to the depth of 100 feet, and are quite sanguine of finding a paying quantity of natural gas.

Application has been made for a military encampment on these grounds some time next summer, which will, in all probability, be acceded to by the proprietor.

At the annual meeting of the Building Association of Haddonfield on Monday evening last, the following officers were elected: A. C. Paul, pres.; J. L. Rowand, sec.; J. H. Lippincott, jr., treas.; Directors for 3 years—Fred'k Sutton, Chs. H. Hillman, Chs. R. Stevenson, and, to fill the vacancy of J. A. J. Sheets, dec'd, A. R. Underdown.

The dancing-craze seems to be invading the religious community, and it is rumored that there is one teacher of dancing who is also a teacher in a Sunday School of one of our churches! Peculiar state of things, if true.

The store of Clement & Griffiin was entered on Tuesday night of last week, through a rear window, and jewelry, cutlery, revolvers, etc., to the amount of several hundred dollars taken.

We understand the capital for a bank in Haddonfield has all been subscribed for.

There was a noted marriage in town Thursday ev'g: we can give no particulars, our paper being then printed.

Mrs. Cassaday is still talking to the people and exhorting them to seek religion, at the Methodist church.

It is said a great revival of religion is in progress at the Glassboro Methodist church, under the care of Rev. W. S. Zane, who will be remembered by many in Haddonfield, as a former pastor of the Methodist church in this place. 81 persons were taken into the church at Glassboro, recently, on a Sunday.

The Camden Horse Railway has been purchased by a syndicate of capitalists, and it is said improvements are to be made: that electricity is to be used instead of horses, and that the line is to be extended to different points, including Haddonfield and Merchantville.

Three of the New York railway strikers were arrested for assaulting applicants for work, and sentenced to imprisonment for 3, 4 and 6 months, respectively.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate of Pennsylvania, to prohibit the sale of tobacco to persons under 16.

That editorial in the Ledger of Feb. 8, has the right ring about the K'ts of Labor and the strike in New York.

Dogs on the West Jersey and the Camden and Atlantic R. R. are to be charged 25 cts. each for 50 miles or less.

There have been numerous hen-roost robberies lately in the neighborhood of Marlton by chicken-thieves.

The New Jersey Conference of the M. E. Church is to be held at Salem, beginning on the 6th of March.

The great Blizzard of last Spring was on March 12th.

"CHRIST BEFORE PILATE" is a wonderfully interesting Picture, 14½ by 22 inches, handsomely printed in colors. Price only $1. Can be had at the office of the "Basket," or sent by mail, post-paid, on receipt of price. This is a picture to study, showing the calm and striking position of Jesus with his hands crossed and bound in front of him, looking steadily at Pilate as his threats, wife, with a troubled countenance, and working nervously with his hands shows the uncertain state of his mind. There are about 40 human figures, with only one woman, and her countenance expresses sympathy

DIED--In Haddonfield, on Sunday morning, Feb. 3rd, HOWARD L. KAY, son of Joseph F. Kay, in the 27th year of his age.